Meghalaya is 30. The whole State being a Tribal majority State is covered by RPDS. Over 1700 Blocks are covered in the entire country. Apart from key essential commodities, such as rice, wheat, levy sugar, Kerosene, Imported edible oil other items such as iodised salt, washing soap and matches are distributed in some areas.

The consumer price of levy sugar distributed through PDS is Rs. 8.30 per kg. The Central Issue Prices (CIP) of foodgrains for RPDS are as follows :—

(Rs. per Quintal w.e.f. 11-1-93)

Common Rice	387.00
Fine Rice	447.00
Super Fine Rice	460.00
Wheat	280.00

State Governments have been requested to fix the retail prices of foodgrains in RPDS areas not exceeding the CIP by more than 25 paise per kg.

World Bank suggestion on beneficiaries under P.D.S.

1452. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has issued any directions to his Ministry to reduce the number of Beneficiaries under the Public Distribution System ;

(b) if so, what are the details of suggestions from the World Bank; and

(c) if not, the reasons for reducing the number of beneficiaries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No decision in this regard has been taken. However, at the 15th meeting of the PDS Advisory Council it was unanimously resolved that a National Policy on PDS be evolved with a view to ensuring larger and more meaningful quantities of foodgrains to the really needy and poor.

Losses of Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited

1453. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited incurred an avoidable extra expenditure of Rs. 1 crore in paying for tin cans for refined edible oils;

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard;

(c) the extent of loss suffered by this Company;

(d) whether tenders were invited, if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, what were the reasons therefor; and

(f) what action was taken against the person found guilty of such lapses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (f) CAG's audit have pointed out an extra expenditure of Rs. 1 crore having been incurred by HVOC during 1984-85 in the purchase of tin cans. In June, 1984, Central Purchase Committee of HVOC approved supply of 5 kg tins at Rs. 9.50 effective from 1-5-1984. In November, 1984, the price was raised to Rs. 10.50 again effective from 1-5-1984, increase of rupee

one entailed extra expenditure of Rs. 1 crore.

No tenders were invited as the system was not prevalent in the former units, namely, Ganesh Flour Mills and Amritsar Oil Works. HVOC was incorporated as a public sector undertaking with the above two companies in April, 1984. It took sometime to revise the practices and the tenders were first time issued in May, 1985.

By the time, the incident came to light, concrened officers had retired from the Undertaking.

Revamped PDS in Andhra Pradesh

1454. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) what major decisions have so far been taken under the revamped Public Distribution System and by when it is likely to come into force;

(b) the details of the work in Andhra Pradesh identified under the scheme;

(c) whether this scheme is under implementation in these identified works in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (d) Government decided to revamp the Public Distribution System (PDS) to improve its reach in far-flung, hilly, remote, tribal areas and in consultation with the State Governments. About 1700 blocks covered by various area specific programmes including in Andhra Pradesh were identified in the country. State Governments were asked to implement decisions regarding opening of fair price shops, issue additional ration cards to population left uncovered, eliminate bogus ration cards in the States, arrange for door-step delivery of PDS items, set up Village|FPS level Advisory|Vigilance Committees, create additional storage space for stocking of foodgrains and for distribution of items of mass consumption such as pulses, iodised salt, tea, washing soap through PDS outlets. As per reports received, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has opened 362 additional fair price shops in the Revamped PDS areas of the State and issued 48964 ration cards to families who were without such cards. More than 1 lakh bogus cards were eliminated in the State. Arrangements have been made for door-step delivery of the PDS items to the FPSs and setting up of Vigilance|Advisory Committees at different levels. Additional items of mass consumption such as Nivedan tea, iodised salt, washing soaps, text books, janata sarees, dhotis and other items are being distributed using PDS outlets in tribal areas.

बेहतर सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के लिए नए योजना प्रस्ताव

1455. चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह :—क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार उचित दर की दुकानों, इन दुकानों पर वस्तुओं की पर्याप्त आपूर्ति तथा आवश्यक वस्तुओं की पर्याप्त आपूर्ति पर और अधिक जोर देने का विचार रखती है; और

(ख) यदि हां तो गत वर्ष के दौरान राज्यों में किए गए कार्यों का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है ?

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) और (ख) सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के कार्यान्वयन के लिए संचलनात्मक जिम्मेदारी राज्य सरकारों संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों की होती है। उचित दर